

Application No. 10/776,428
Attorney Docket No. 20712-0074

D.) AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

None.

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E.) REMARKS

This Response is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 9, 2005.

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1-24 will be pending in the Application.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to the disclosure filed September 21, 2004 as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1); objected to the specification; rejected claims 9, 12, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; and indicated independent claims 1, 9, 14, and 24 and dependant claims 2-8, 10, 11, 15 and 17-23 as allowable subject matter.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 9, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner stated that in claim 9, the language "the shaft threads" lacked proper antecedent basis. In response thereto, Applicant has amended claim 9 in a manner that is believed to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

The Examiner stated that claim 12 is improper because it is dependant upon itself and claim 13 is indefinite as being dependant upon a proper claim. In response thereto, Applicant has amended claim 12 in a manner that is believed to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

The Examiner stated that in claim 13, the language "the hydraulic fluid is water" is unclear based on the claim from which claim 13 is dependent. In response thereto, Applicant has amended claim 13 in a manner that is believed to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

Therefore, in view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 9, 12 and 13 are not indefinite and comply with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and therefore are allowable.

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Information Disclosure Statement

Examiner indicated that the information Disclosure Statement filed on September 21, 2004 failed to comply with 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(1). In response thereto, Applicant is submitting a new copy of the information disclosure statement for consideration to be placed in the application file that is believed to comply with 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(1) and therefore is acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that independent claims 1, 9, 14 and 24 are allowed as being allowable subject matter over the prior art. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, but believes that all of the claims are allowable for reasons given above.

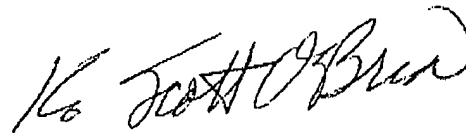
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Application and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections. As a result of the amendments and remarks presented herein, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-24 are not anticipated by nor rendered obvious by the applied art and thus, are in condition for allowance. As the claims are not anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the applied art, Applicant requests allowance of claims 1-24 in a timely manner. If the Examiner believes that prosecution of this Application could be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicant.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1059.

Respectfully submitted,
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